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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 29, 2011, at 2 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2011

The Senate met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Mighty God, as we convene the Senate today, after a time of thanksgiving, please give every Member of this body a desire to bring great honor to You. As significant issues are discussed in this Chamber, let there be cordiality and civility, wisdom and courage, humility and faith.

Lord, make our Nation a shining example of positive compromise and constructive cooperation. Bring to each one serving on Capitol Hill the wisdom to see what can be done for the good of our Nation and world when Your ways become our ways.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JIM WEBB led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 28, 2011.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WEBB thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I see the two managers of the Defense bill are on the floor today. The Republican leader is going to be here in a few minutes to give a speech. I am going to give one, but it should not take long. Then we can get to the bill.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

The majority leader.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1867, the Defense authorization bill. At 5 p.m., the Senate will be in executive session to consider the nomination of Christopher Droney to be a U.S. circuit judge for the Second Circuit. At 5:30 p.m., there will be a vote on that nomination.

PAYROLL TAX CUT EXTENSION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I trust that the Acting President pro tempore and all of our staff, everyone in this great Capitol complex, had a safe and happy holiday. I hope everyone is well rested because we have a difficult work period ahead of us. We have much to do over the next few weeks with the Hanukkah and Christmas holiday quickly looming ahead.

This week we need to finish the work on the Defense authorization bill and even more. This month we will also handle a number of nominations and extend unemployment insurance for Americans still struggling to find work during these difficult times, and we have more appropriations work to do.

The continuing resolution to fund the government expires on December 16. We must not neglect the responsibility to continue our work to put

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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